



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 130

January Session, 2013

Substitute House Bill No. 6404

House of Representatives, March 25, 2013

The Committee on General Law reported through REP. BARAM of the 15th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING REGISTERED INTERIOR DESIGNERS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 20-377l of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

3 (a) No person shall use the title "registered interior designer" or
4 display or use any words, letters, figures, title, sign, seal,
5 advertisement or other device to indicate that such person is a
6 registered interior designer in this state, unless such person (1) has
7 obtained a certificate of registration as provided in sections 20-377k to
8 20-377v, inclusive; or (2) is an architect licensed in this state.

9 (b) Any person holding a certificate of registration under this
10 chapter may utilize a seal. Such seal shall only include: (1) The name of
11 such person, (2) the words "Registered Interior Designer, State of
12 Connecticut", and (3) such person's registration number.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>July 1, 2014</i>	20-377l
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GL *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

There is no fiscal impact to the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP) in limiting the types of seals used by registered interior designers as the DCP already limits a person's right to title or market himself or herself as a registered interior designer.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 6404*****AN ACT CONCERNING REGISTERED INTERIOR DESIGNERS.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill limits the type of seals that registered interior designers may use to those that only include (1) the name of the interior designer using the seal; (2) the words "Registered Interior Designer, State of Connecticut"; and (3) the interior designer's registration number.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2014

BACKGROUND***Regulation of Interior Designers***

The state does not regulate who may practice interior design, but does limit a person's right to title or market themselves as a registered interior designer (*Roberts v. Farrell*, 630 F.Supp.2d 242 (2009)). By law, a person cannot use the title "registered interior designer" or otherwise indicate that he or she is a registered interior designer in the state unless he or she (1) has registered as an interior designer with the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP) or (2) is an architect licensed in the state. In order to receive a certificate of registration, an applicant must submit proof to DCP that he or she (1) passed the uniform national examination established by the National Council for Interior Design Qualifications, (2) passed any other examination with standards or requirements equal to or greater than those established by such council, or (3) is currently registered or licensed in another state having registration or licensing standards or requirements equal to or greater than Connecticut's standards or requirements. An applicant must also pay DCP a fee of \$190.

COMMITTEE ACTION

General Law Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 18 Nay 0 (03/12/2013)